

REMARKS

Status of Claims:

Claims 1-12, presented in the parent application, are hereby canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of any subject matter. Claims 13-22 are now pending in the application. The instant claims represents subject matter canceled, pursuant to a restriction, from parent application 09/959,945, allowed as patent (TBA). Each of the pending claims defines an invention that is novel and unobvious over the cited art. Favorable consideration of this case is respectfully requested.

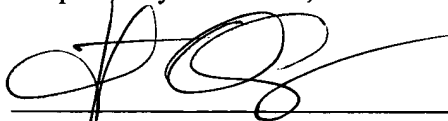
Conclusion:

In view of the above, consideration and allowance are, therefore, respectfully solicited.

In the event the Examiner believes an interview might serve to advance the prosecution of this application in any way, the undersigned attorney is available at the telephone number noted below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayment associated with this communication, including any extension fees or fees for the net addition of claims, to Deposit Account No. 22-0185.

Respectfully submitted,



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